Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A remote printing server which receives data from a client computer via a local network and sends data over a global network so as to print the data on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

print response means for performing a print control protocol <u>for a local printer in the local network</u> so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and generating a print job for performing a response process when the data is printed;

spooling means for spooling the print job generated by said print response means, informing the client computer of a completion of a print process in the local network <u>before the print data is actually printed</u>, and generating a print completion job;

transferring data conversion means for converting the print completion job generated by said spooling means into a format in which the job can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network <u>using a predetermined transfer protocol</u>; and

remote transfer means for transferring the print completion job converted into a transferrable format by said transferring data conversion means to the remote printer over the global network using ~~a~~ <u>the</u> predetermined transfer protocol.

2.   (Previously Presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

recovery means for performing a recovery process on the print completion job transferred by said remote transfer means as necessary.

3.   (Previously Presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

selection means for selecting a transfer protocol for remote transfer of the data.

4.   (Previously Presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, wherein

said remote transfer means uses a file transfer protocol or a mail distribution protocol.

5.   (Previously Presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

encipher means for enciphering print completion job transferred by said remote transfer means.

6.   (Previously Presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

transfer control means for controlling a transfer parameter setting file and said remote transfer means by referring to the transfer parameter setting file.

3

7. (Previously Presented) A remote print system, comprising:

the remote printing server and the remote printer according to claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A data processing method performed by a remote printing server for receiving data from a client computer via a local network and for sending data over a global network so as to print the data on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

a print response step of performing a print control protocol <u>for a local printer in the local network</u> so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and generating a print job for performing a response process when the data is printed;

a spooling step of spooling the print job generated in said print response step, informing the client computer of a completion of a print process in the local network <u>before the print data is actually printed</u>, and generating a print completion job;

a transferring data conversion step of converting the print completion job generated in said spooling step into a format in which the job can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network <u>using a predetermined transfer protocol</u>; and

a remote transfer step of transferring the print completion job converted into a transferrable format in said transferring data conversion step to the remote printer over the global network using a <u>the</u> predetermined transfer protocol.

4

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to use as a remote printing server for receiving data from a client computer via a local network and for sending data over a global network so as to print the data on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

a print response step of performing a print control protocol for a local printer in the local network so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and generating a print job for performing a response process when the data is printed;

a spooling step of spooling the print job generated in said print response step, informing the client computer of a completion of a print process in the local network before the print job is actually printed, and generating a print completion job;

a transferring data conversion step of converting the print completion job generated in said spooling step into a format in which the job can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network using a predetermined transfer protocol; and

a remote transfer step of transferring the print completion job converted into a transferrable format in said transferring data conversion step to the remote printer over the global network using a the predetermined transfer protocol.

10. (Canceled).